

# Uganda during the Corona pandemic Interim Management Report - February 2021

# MITEINANDER FÜR UGANDA RA

Ihr Kontakt zu uns

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# Dear sponsors, donors and interested parties!

The Corona pandemic continues to shape daily life around the world. This also has a great impact on our work in Uganda. Thanks to the tireless help of Waltraud Ndagijimana-Hagen and the many years of trustful cooperation with our local contacts, we can continue our work in Uganda despite all the restrictions caused by the Corona pandemic. Today I would like to inform you about the current developments and our plans for 2021.

#### 1. General situation:

So far, 40,000 people in Uganda have tested positive for the virus and 389 people have died from corona infection. Despite these extremely low numbers for a country of more than 40 million people, strict protective measures remain in place, such as mandatory wearing of masks in all public places and streets, restrictions on the number of people attending religious services and funerals, and the partial closure of schools.



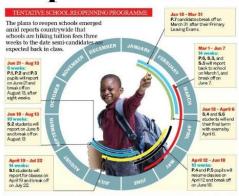
Examensklasse mit Sicherheitsabstand und Masken

The schools were already closed in mid-March 2020. From mid-October, at least the exam classes could return to classes. But for most of the students, the school closure is still ongoing after almost a year. Since then,

children in rural areas have been helping with field work or household chores. Without electricity and TV sets, they have no opportunity to participate in television lessons.

In the last few days, a plan for the resumption of classes has finally been presented. It provides for a rolling system so that, as a rule, no more than two grades are taught at the same time. In this way, it is hoped that a minimum gap in teaching can be maintained. The current plan covers the period until August 13, 2021. Hopefully, the situation will have eased by then so that regular school lessons can be held again for all students.

# How govt plans to reopen all schools



Similar to the rolling system at schools, training centers and universities will also resume their operations..

# 3. Corona aid through togetherness for Uganda:

The situation remains tense due to the restrictions on daily life in large parts of Uganda. Even though travel is now possible again under strict conditions, there are hardly no tourists in the country. As a result, many businesses have lost their livelihoods. Hotels and restaurants are the hardest hit. Many employees and day laborers have been laid off. There are no state social benefits or emergency aid in Uganda. The poorest are suffering greatly from the persistently poor conditions.

# 3a. Sponsored children and orphans:

In 2020, we have already distributed four aid packages containing food, hygiene items (soap, detergents, toothpaste) and washable masks for everyday use to our 150 sponsored children and a further 200 orphans in the Mutolere region. In this way, we can provide the children and their families with basic necessities during this difficult time and enable them to maintain a minimum level of hygiene. As part of our annual planning, we have decided to continue this aid for as long as necessary. Further aid packages are already planned for the end of February and the beginning of April.

#### 3b. Pregnant girls:

As you may have gathered from various press reports about Africa, teenage pregnancies are increasing enormously in many states as a side effect of the prolonged school closures. Together with the Public Health Center

of St. Francis Hospital, we have set up an aid for affected young women in the Mutolere region.

To help them have a safe birth, we will pay for an inpatient delivery and provide them with a baby care starter kit. This will include a bath bucket, a blanket, diapers, soap and baby clothes.

# 3c. Corona protective clothing for St. Francis Hospital

Protective clothing is not a scarce commodity in Uganda, but unfortunately expensive, so that the local hospital cannot finance it in sufficient measure for a good corona protection of the staff and patients.

Together for Uganda association provides the hospital with 5,000 euros for the purchase of protective clothing at the Medical Store in Kampala.

# 4. information about our projects

In our ongoing projects - info at <a href="www.MiteinanderFue-ruganda.de">www.MiteinanderFue-ruganda.de</a> - we will focus on the following this year:

#### 4a. Laboratory renovation at St. Francis Hospital



erster Tag im neuen Labor

The dilapidated laboratory at St. Francis Hospital was renovated and expanded last year with the help of donations, at a total cost of 27,000 euros. Last week, the new premises could be occupied. Now the laboratory again meets the requirements of the Ugandan Ministry of Health. This enables the hospital to

carry out important diagnostics on site and thus to help the patients quickly and in a targeted manner. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all donors who helped us to realize this project!

# 4b. Renovation of the children's clinic

This year, the focus is on the pediatric clinic, which opened in 2007. Due to the extreme weather conditions and normal wear and tear, the walls of the entire clinic need to be repainted after 14 years. A tile backsplash will also be installed in the lower area to protect against splashing water. The cost of the renovation will be 7,200 euros.

# 4c. Equipment of the physio rehab department

The main roads in the Kisoro district have been paved since 2016. Unfortunately, the number of serious accidents with complicated bone fractures has also increased since then. So far, the hospital has not been able to provide adequate rehabilitation treatment to restore mobility. Therefore, this year a physio-rehab

department will be established at St. Francis Hospital. Our association supports the hospital with 5.000 Euro.

# 4d. Kagera Primary School

The renovation backlog in schools is not only an issue in many German communities, but also in Uganda necessary renovation measures are not carried out due to a lack of funds. However, we are not talking about cosmetic repairs here, but about classrooms that are in danger of collapsing.

Last year, we replaced two dilapidated classrooms at Kagera Primary School with new buildings. This year, a

block with five classrooms and the teachers' room will follow. Due to the Corona protection measures, not all classrooms will be needed at the same time in the foreseeable future,



alte Klassenräume Kagera School

so we are taking the opportunity to completely renovate the building, which is in danger of collapsing. The cost of this project is 43,500 euros.

We have set ourselves ambitious goals for 2021 to further improve the living conditions of the people in the Kisoro region and to provide individual assistance in emergency situations.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you and all the sponsors and donors who give us the financial means to carry out our work.

Our work on the ground is more important than ever during the Corona crisis. We would be delighted if the people in Uganda and St. Francis Hospital could continue to count on your support right now!

Ngahoo – see you soon, please stay healthy

Chair

Anja Mecking